

a⁸ Cont. groups within the reference sequence. Allowable sequence alterations include but are not limited to deletion, insertion, translocation and substitution of individual residues.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, and 8 as follows:

1. An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence shown in Figure 1B (SEQ ID NO:02).

2. An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

a⁹ (a) a nucleic acid sequence of at least 90 nucleotides that is essentially identical to a linear nucleotide sequence of comparable length depicted in Figure 1B (SEQ ID NO:02);

(b) a nucleic acid sequence of at least 90 nucleotides encoding a polypeptide that is essentially identical to a linear peptide sequence of at least 30 amino acids depicted in Figure 1A (SEQ ID NO:01); and

(c) a complement of (a) or (b)

6. The isolated polynucleotide of claim 2 wherein said nucleic acid encodes a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence that is essentially identical to a linear sequence of comparable length shown in Figure 1A (SEQ ID NO:01).

a¹⁰ 7. The isolated polynucleotide of claim 2 wherein said nucleic acid sequence encodes a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence shown in Figure 1A (SEQ ID NO:01)

8. The isolated polynucleotide of claim 2 wherein said nucleic acid encodes a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence essentially identical to the entire amino acid sequence shown in Figure 1A (SEQ ID NO:01).